

The Southeast News

VOLUME XI, NUMBER 2

DECEMBER 1962

WE WISH YOU A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

Christmas is almost here! There is joy in the sense of anticipation. What beauty there is to behold. What joyful sounds fall upon the ear. What excitement and delight there are for the heart and spirit. Christmas means joy.

There is the quiet joy rooted in the tender ties that bind loved ones together and that wells up from the warmth of friendships. There is the exciting joy to be found in delighted children for whom Christmas is also new and so precious.

And there is the profound joy that comes with the knowledge that the Christmas celebration once more sends forth the glorious news that God is love and that in the birth of Jesus Christ he has shown beyond all doubting the depth and strength of his love for his people.

“JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME!
LET EARTH RECEIVE HER KING;
LET EVERY HEART PREPARE HIM ROOM,
AND HEAVEN AND NATURE SING.”

At this Christmas Season we pray that Christ may be in your heart and in your living. May your Christmas be joyful and your New Year blessed by God.

J. Kermit Harris
W. Pressley Ingram
Lois D. Harry

Emilie F. Pitcock
Wilmer L. McCord
W. J. Strickland

James H. Lightbourne, Jr.

The Church Is There Because People Care

Dear Brethren:

Algeria disaster — we are there.

We are sorry to have to report another disaster — this time man made — but again we are happy to report that we are there with help.

Jan Van Hoogstraten, Church World Service Africa Director, has just returned from a four-week field trip to Algeria. He reports such desperate needs that an emergency call for additional help is going out to churches throughout the country.

Half of the population of this war-devastated country is hungry. The refugees returning are without shelter or adequate clothing. In the areas of Constantine and Batna 1,300,000 are facing winter without blankets and are starving.

WE ARE HELPING — Working through the Christian Committee for Service in Algeria (CCSA, associated with the World Council of Churches) we have staff on the field. Pastor Heinrich Hellstern of Swiss Hilfswerk is the director.

A witness of the power of reconciliation is the fact that CIMADE, the service agency of the French Protestant Church, was asked to remain and work in Algeria. The CIMADE workers had visited and ministered to the Algerian leaders all during their terms in prison in France.

77,383 pounds of clothing and blankets; 3,401 pounds of medicines and hospital supplies; 28,680 pounds of beans; 60,000 pounds of flour; 480,400 pounds of wheat and 59,994 pounds of chopped beef are already being distributed or are en route. All of the food has been contributed by our farmers through CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program). There are 130 milk distribution centers caring for 26,000 children; 2 centers for poor workers and 5 school meal centers in operation.

60,000,000 of U. S. surplus wheat will be rushed to Algeria to combat the growing starvation.

BUT — The need is so great that a special call must go out.

Over a half million blankets are needed immediately. Large sums are needed to support our SOS (Share Our Surplus) program.

WE URGE — That your church join in the community drive for blankets and 25 cents to process and get each blanket there with speed.

AND — At this Thanksgiving Sea-

Christmas Gift Suggestions To Help College Library

Here's a worthwhile project for your Christmas list! The Southern Union College Library has to subscribe to many magazines. Why not send your check for \$3 or \$5 or \$10 to give the library a magazine for a year? Here is the list of magazines the library now subscribes to and for which you could pay the subscription.

Atlantic Monthly
Atlas
Booklist & Subscription Books Bulletin
Business Week
Christian Century
Collegiate Baseball Digest
Fortune
Harpers Magazine
Intercollegian
Life
Monthly Labor Review
Music Journal
Nation — Regular Edition
New York Times Sunday
Newsweek
Popular Mechanics
Reporter Forthnightly
Saturday Evening Post
Saturday Review
Science Digest
Scientific American
Sports Illustrated
Today's Secretary — Regular Edition
U. S. News and World Report
United Nations Review
Vital Speeches

The college would like to receive the following:

Ideals
New Yorker
Time
Yale Review

(Note: The library already receives a number of other magazines not listed here as annual gift subscriptions.)

Checks for this project should be made payable to The Southern Union College and sent to President Walter A. Graham, Southern Union College, Wadley, Alabama.

son bring an offering for sending additional food through the SOS program.

With joyful thanks for your gifts that we are now using and confidence that you will help gloriously in this unexpected emergency call,

Sincerely yours,
Reginald H. Helfferich
General Secretary
Division of World Service

HERE AND THERE

Lay Life and Work Area Meeting

The area meeting for ministers and laity of the churches in this region sponsored by the Council of Lay Life and Work of the United Church, was held at Central Congregational Church, Atlanta on Saturday, November 10.

Approximately 60 people were in attendance at the one-day session which featured Rev. Lillian Gregory as the keynote speaker and group discussion periods for those in attendance.

Representatives from churches of both the Convention of the South and the Southeast Convention participated in the meeting, which was one of several held across the country this fall.

* * * *

United Church Minister's Conference

The second annual United Church Minister's Conference was held on Monday-Wednesday, November 6-8, at the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta.

The president of the United Church, Dr. Ben M. Herbst, was the guest lecturer. Also on the program were Rev. Archie Hargrove, secretary for the Urban Church, and Rev. Serge F. Hummon, secretary for the Town and Country Church of the Board for Homeland Ministries.

Approximately 40 ministers of the Convention of the South and the Southeast Convention were in attendance.

* * * *

Refugees Now Citizens

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Teringer, who came to this country several years ago under the sponsorship of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., have both become citizens of the United States during this year. Mr. Teringer has served the church as custodian until recently. Now he has other employment, but helps Mrs. Teringer with the heavier work at the church now that she is the new custodian.

* * * *

Rev. and Mrs. Samuel M. Penn, who are now living with a son in Newnan, Ga., observed their 62nd wedding anniversary on Sunday, November 11.

* * * *

Planning and Training Conference

The Planning and Training Conference for officers of Pilgrim Fellowship groups, mature young people, and youth advisors will be held at Southern Union College on December 27-29.

Remember

Christmas Fund for the VETERANS of the CROSS

We

Those

Care

Who

And

Have

We

Served



WE CARE — WE SHARE

Share

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE CHRISTMAS FUND. SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

**THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF MINISTERIAL RELIEF
287 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.**

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Superintendent's Corner

It is customary during the Christmas Season in many of our churches to receive an offering for "The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross."

The monies raised through these offerings are used in the first place to make possible special Christmas checks to our retired ministers or their widows, particularly those who have need of special help. In the second place gifts are made to other ministers who because of specific situations stand in need of immediate help at this season.

In the third place, the funds are used throughout the year to help relieve emergency situations in ministerial families.

Through the years many of the ministers and widows of the Southeast Convention who have served faithfully have been assisted. It will be so in the years ahead.

Let the churches of the Southeast Convention respond generously to this opportunity. Give to The Christmas Fund!

* * * *

Superintendent's Schedule

December 9 — Talladega College

December 10-11 — Committee on Reorganization and Realignment, Chattanooga

January 8 — Social Action Committee, Chattanooga, Pilgrim Church

January 13—Circular Church, Charleston, S. C.

January 15-16 — Board of Directors, Franklinton Center, Bricks, N. C.

January 22 — Southeast Convention Board of Directors, Atlanta, Ga.

Introducing The United Church Curriculum

Since 1953 Christian Education leaders of both the Evangelical and Reformed and the Congregational Christian denominations have been doing research, writing, editing, and testing materials which will be published next spring as the basis for the United Church Curriculum. Although publication of the nursery materials began in 1960 and was followed in 1961 and 1962 by the kindergarten materials, the materials for primary through adult church school classes will be published simultaneously from 1963 through early spring of 1965.

Many of our people are raising questions concerning the new curriculum, and we are delighted to be able to furnish materials which will help to answer these questions. Helpful brochures on the nursery and kindergarten materials have been available for some time from the Southeast Convention office. On the nursery level, the brochure is entitled *Presenting 3's in the Christian Community*; and for those interested in the kindergarten course, the brochure is entitled *For the Living Child the Living Christian Gospel*. A more general brochure was available at the fall association meetings, with additional copies being available without cost from the Convention office: *Answers to Your Questions about the United Church Curriculum*. Published by our denominational Divisions of Christian Education and Publication, this brochure deals with questions frequently asked, such as the following: "What is the United Church Curriculum?" "How will the curriculum help persons grow as Christians?", "Why do we need new curriculum materials?", "How is the Bible included in the curriculum?", "What should we do now to get ready to use the curriculum?", and many others.

The Southeast Convention Christian Education Committee is making plans for training our people in the use of the United Church Curriculum. Miss Pitcock, our Minister of Christian Education, and Mrs. J. R. Brackin of Headland, Alabama, recently attended a training session on the curriculum at Pawling, New York. Further Education staff members at the United Church Assembly in Cincinnati late in January, 1963. Then from March 20-23, 1963, in Atlanta, a Regional Training Session will be held for our area, with five national staff members and five

leaders from the Southeast Convention, the Convention of the South, and the Florida Conference training "leaders of leaders". Meanwhile, making use of the CEA's (Christian Education Associates) and others who have had special training in Christian Education, the Southeast Convention Committee is recruiting "teams" to help local churches in various phases of their Christian Education effort, including the introduction of the United Church Curriculum.

If, like many other church leaders, you are asking, "What can we do now to prepare for the curriculum", we suggest, first of all, the following (taken from the brochure, *Answers to Your Questions . . .*): (1) Inform yourselves about the curriculum. Order several copies of *The Educational Mission of Our Church* by Roger Shinn (\$1.00) from the United Church Book Store, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia 2, Pennsylvania. Study of this book is your best immediate preparation. (2) Begin to take stock of your church school — teachers, rooms, and equipment. How many teachers will you need? How can you rearrange and adapt room space? Do you need to refurbish equipment or secure more? (3) Work out budget plans for purchasing the complete curriculum. (4) Subscribe to the *Church School Worker* to keep up to date on information and available pamphlets and other interpretive materials. (5) Strengthen your adult education program to increase your leadership pool. (6) In February 1963 you will receive from our national office a brochure describing all the United Church Curriculum materials, listing prices, and enclosing order blanks for introductory sets. Place your order early. (7) Place your complete order for the first semester materials by June 1, 1963.

Also, watch *The Southeast News* for further information regarding training opportunities. If you have further questions, write either to Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock, 673 Piedmont Ave., N. C., Atlanta 8, Georgia, or to Mrs. W. Raymond Berry, 1722 Truman Drive, N. E., Huntsville, Alabama.

EXTEND YOUR HORIZONS

READ YOUR

CHURCH MAGAZINES



Church Builder's Club Check To Russell Woods

The Russell Woods Congregational Christian Church, Phenix City, Alabama, celebrated its fifth anniversary on Sunday, November 4th.

The guest speaker for the anniversary service was Mr. Fred D. Powell, president of the Church Builder's Club of the Southeast Convention and a member of the Mt. Olive Congregational Christian Church, Tallassee, Alabama.

In the picture above, Mr. Powell is shown presenting a check in the amount of \$750.00 to Mr. Freddie Foster, chairman of the Building Committee of the church. The \$750 marks the first payment to the church from the current financial drive of the Church Builder's Club. As additional funds are received they will be presented to the church. The church is now worshipping in its new educational building. Rev. Warren Blankenhorn is the pastor.

Andalusia Church Reports Appointment Of Chairman

In a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees and Deacons of First Congregational Christian Church, Andalusia, Alabama, Mr. Alfred Adams was appointed chairman of the Board of Deacons and Mrs. Arthur Wallace was appointed chairman of the Board of Trustees. An effort to complete an Every Member Canvass is under way and is to be completed within a very few days. The committee feels that our budget for 1962-1963 can and will be covered when the pledge cards are all received and processed. Both the Ladies' Fellowship and the Men's Fellowship are having their regular scheduled meetings and are enjoying working together in the church.

A. E. Adams, Reporter

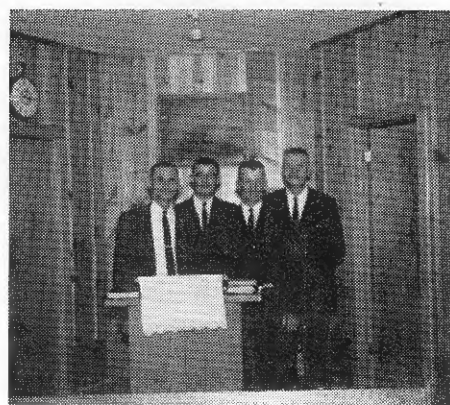
United Church LaGrange Reports Many Activities

The United Congregational Christian Church of LaGrange, Georgia, has made quite a bit of progress in church attendance lately, both in Sunday School and morning and evening services.

We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. Craig Watkins and daughter, Denna, to our church as members. Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Irvin's infant son, Robert Alan Irvin, was christened during the morning worship service at United Congregational Christian Church on November 4th.

The men of the church have formed a Laymen's Fellowship which has proved successful. Ten members of the Sixty-Plus Club, a non-denominational club for people sixty years of age and over, visited Stone Mountain recently. The group went to Stone Mountain where they enjoyed a picnic lunch, then visited the monastery near Conyers, and then the Atlanta Airport. Club members making the trip were Mrs. Dora Keeble, Mrs. G. C. Cobb, Mrs. Eris Banks, Mrs. R. J. Partridge, Mr. and Mrs. George Golden, Mrs. Cora Bailey, Mrs. Katie Bailey, Mrs. Horton, and Mrs. Sam Nelson. They were accompanied on the trip by Mrs. Doris Thornberry, Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Tidwell, Lewis Cole, and Rev. Floyd Carmack.

Mrs. Ernest Lipham



Mt. Lebanon Church Dedicates Addition

The Mt. Lebanon Congregational Christian Church, which is located on Chandler Mountain near Steele, Alabama, recently held a service of dedication for the additional rooms added to the church building and for the renovation of the auditorium.

In the picture above are (left to right) Rev. Homer Barnes, pastor of the church; Mr. Junior Bearden, superintendent of the Sunday School; Mr. Ernest Kell, chairman of the building committee; and Rev. Guy L. Colbert, pastor-at-large of the North Alabama Association. They participated in the service, along with Superintendent James H. Lightbourne Jr.

The church added several Sunday School rooms to the building in order to meet the needs of the membership more adequately.

Kentucky-Tennessee United Church Young People Hold Joint Meeting

Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., was host to a joint meeting of the youth from Kentucky-Tennessee Conference (Southeast Convention) and Tennessee-Kentucky Conference (Convention of the South) Saturday, October 27, from 10:00 a. m. to 3:00 p. m.

David Snavely, Pleasant Hill, Tenn., was in charge of the opening worship, which was followed by a business session. Guest speaker was Rev. Edward M. Brown, consultant on Inter-group Relations for the Board for Homeland Ministries. Workshops on Christian Action, Fellowship and Faith were led by the chairman of each Commission in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

Following lunch and recreation, Diana Briscoe, secretary of the Tennessee-Kentucky Conference, reported on the Joint National Youth Council, held at Purdue University in August. Clos-

ing worship and installation of officers for both conferences was conducted by the host pastor, Rev. Arnold Slater.

New officers are as follows: Kentucky-Tennessee Conference — president, David Snavely; vice-president, David Granish; secretary, Nancy Tucker; treasurer, Mike Cozza; Faith chairman, Alex Dublois; Action chairman, Juanita Payne; Fellowship chairman, Joey Arnell; adult advisor, Mr. William A. Dublois.

Tennessee - Kentucky Conference — president, Diana Briscoe; first vice-president, Myrna Williams; second vice-president, Juanita Jones; secretary, Wilma McClure; treasurer, Charles Joyner; Faith chairman, Jacqueline Paris; Action chairman, Juanita Jones; Fellowship chairman, Myrna Williams; adult advisor, Miss Grace Collins.

Church-Going Teen-Agers State Their Preferences

Church-going teen-agers vote overwhelmingly for Peanuts, MAD Magazine, and Carol Burnett.

Red Skelton, Bob Hope, and Jerry Lewis run neck-and-neck in a poll on tastes in humor taken by YOUTH, a magazine for young people of the United Church of Christ.

In the results announced here today, Peanuts, with 90 of a possible 210 votes, swamped 33 other comic strips mentioned as favorites by the boys and girls. No other strip had more than five votes.

MAD led the "funniest magazine" field with 115 votes.

Carol Burnett knocked the competition out of the box with 150 votes as "funniest comedienne." Lucile Ball ran second with eight.

Among the comedians Red Skelton was a slight favorite with 44 votes, Bob Hope had 35, Jerry Lewis 33, Bob Newhart 22, and Shelley Berman 15. Skelton also led in the "funniest TV program" category with 22 votes, followed by Dick Van Dyke with 15. More than 30 TV shows were mentioned.

The Protestant teen-agers listed 60 books as "the funniest I ever read." Leading with 24 votes was *Kids Say the Darndest Things*.

Of 50 movies mentioned, "The Absent-Minded Professor" led with 17 votes.

The United Church of Christ young people ranging in age from 15 to 19 also expressed their views about the kind of humor they don't like.

Off-color jokes, especially when told by adults, embarrass them. They don't like humor that depends on personal physical peculiarities. They don't like racial jokes. They don't like practical jokes that are "carried too far."

The question, "What is the most ironic thing about the world today?" pulled some short answers: people, life, race prejudice, grain surpluses, the Berlin Wall.

The YOUTH poll was taken among young people attending the denomination's National Conference on Christian Education at Purdue University last summer. Responses from 210 questionnaires were received and tabulated at the United Church headquarters here.

Southern Union College Will Remain In Wadley

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Union College, meeting in special session on November 12, voted unanimously to continue the institution in Wadley and not to accept an invitation to move the college to Alexander City, according to an announcement by Chairman W. Pressley Ingram of Birmingham.

Mr. Ingram stated that the offer was received just prior to the regular semi-annual board meeting held September 21, and that a special committee, headed by Dr. James H. Lightbourne Jr. of Atlanta, was appointed to study the offer and make reservations to the board. The committee recommended that the offer to move to Alexander City be declined, and its recommendation was approved by a unanimous vote of the board members present at the November meeting.

Dr. Walter A. Graham, president of the institution, stated that the action taken by the board would enable the administration to move ahead with plans for enlarging and improving the facilities of the college. Six new buildings or additions have been added to the campus during the past five years. Dr. Graham stated that the next project to be undertaken immediately will be the raising of funds for a new physical education building estimated to cost \$100,000.00, and an additional \$100,000.00 for permanent endowment.

The present enrollment of 203 is the highest in recent years, and according to Dr. Graham, the calibre of the students is the best he has known.

The statement read in part, "The Southern Union College was founded by the churches of the Southern Christian Convention forty years ago. Throughout the whole of its history it has been a church-related institution, dedicated to excellence in education under Christian auspices and to academic freedom in the search for truth . . .

"The Board of Trustees, in view of this decision to remain in Wadley, now calls upon all of its present supporters in other immediate neighboring communities and throughout the United States, to both continue and increase their support in improving and enlarg-



Rev. And Mrs. A. C. Nelson Have Golden Wedding Anniversary

The Reverend and Mrs. A. C. Nelson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Sunday, October 28th, and renewed their wedding vows in an impressive wedding ceremony performed by the Rev. James H. Lightbourne Jr., superintendent of the Southeast Convention.

The ceremony took place at the close of the regular Sunday morning worship service of the Todd Congregational Christian Church. Mr. Nelson is pastor of the church.

Four generations of the family were present for the happy occasion: Rev. and Mrs. Nelson, their three children, three of their grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

The congregation of the church honored the couple with a dinner at the church following the morning service. In the afternoon a reception was held in their honor at the parsonage.

Present for the occasion were all three of Rev. and Mrs. Nelson's children: Mrs. Cornelia Fetner of Fairfax, Ala.; S/Sgt. Auburn O. Nelson of Brimley, Mich.; and Herman D. Nelson of Macon, Ga.

Taking part in the service were James K. Hart of Atlanta, a grandson, who was best man; Miss Shirley Hart, Fairfax, granddaughter, who was maid of honor; and Ruthie Lee Nelson, Macon, Ga., granddaughter, who was flower girl.

ing its present facilities, so that the purpose for which the college was originally founded can be more adequately fulfilled."